

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

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O R 160710Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3300

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU, HI

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12932

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, JA

SUBJ: JSP MISSION TO US

REF: TOKYO 12468

SUMMARY. IN DISCUSSION WITH MEMBERS OF JSP MISSION TO US, AMBASSADOR
WELCOMED MISSION AND EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT THEY WILL FIND TALKS WITH US

OFFICIALS FRANK AND SUBSTANTIAL. EDA SAID MISSION MARKED NEW STEP IN
JSP'S FOREIGN RELATIONS WHICH HE HOPED WOULD LEAD TO INCREASED CONTACT

WITH US AND WESTERN EUROPE. MISSION MEMBERS PUT IN FINAL PLUG FOR HIGH

LEVEL APPOINTMENTS AT WHITE HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT. WHILE IMPRESSED
WITH FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING AND
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SERIOUSNESS OF MEMBERS. WE STILL
BELIEVE POSSIBILITY FOR UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY EXISTS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING SEPTEMBER 11 DISCUSSION WITH ALL MEMBERS OF JSP MISSION

TO US, PLUS JSP SEC-GEN MASASHI ISHIBASHI AND INTL AFFAIRS DIR KANJI KAWASAKI, AMBASSADOR WELCOMED MISSION AND EXPRESSED BELIEF THEY WILL FIND DISCUSSIONS WITH US OFFICIALS FRANK AND SUBSTANTIAL. AMB, NOTING SUBSTANTIAL RECENT CHANGES IN AMERICAN ATMOSPHERE, TOLD JSP THAT US OFFICIALS ARE WILLING TO LISTEN TO ALL IDEAS, ESPECIALLY THOSE REGARDING WAYS TO FURTHER PEACE IN NORTHEAST ASIA AND TO COPE WITH QUESTIONS OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

2. MISSION LEADER SABURO EDA SAID MISSION MARKED NEW EPOCH IN JSP'S FOREIGN RELATIONS, REPRESENTING OPENING OF LONG CLOSED DOOR TO US THAT PARTY SHOULD HAVE TRIED TO OPEN LONG AGO. POINTING TO ISHIBASHI, EDA SAID SEC-GEN AND OTHER PARTY LEADERS HOPE MISSION WILL LEAD TO EXPANSION OF JSP'S FOREIGN CONTACTS BEYOND PEKING AND MOSCOW ORBIT. EDA POINTED OUT THAT MISSION WILL TRAVEL FOR FIRST TIME TO CONVENTIONS OF SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND BRITISH LABOR PARTY, AND MAY INVITE REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE PARTIES TO JAPAN NEXT YEAR FOR DISCUSSIONS. NOTING THAT HE HAS NEVER BEEN TO US, CHINA OR USSR, EDA SAID HE WAS PERSONALLY GRATIFIED TO VISIT US FIRST, SINCE HE DEEPLY ADMIRES US DEMOCRACY AND FRONTIER SPIRIT. ON A LIGHTER NOTE, EDA SAID HE HOPED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF LOWER WASHINGTON (GOLF) GREEN FEES.

3. FOLLOWING EDA'S REMARKS, REMAINING JSP MISSION MEMBERS RAISED QUESTION OF WASHINGTON APPOINTMENTS, PARTICULARLY WITH WHITE HOUSE. ASSURING THEM THAT EMBASSY HAS SUGGESTED APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS, AMB SAID APPOINTMENTS WILL PROBABLY FINALLY BE DETERMINED IN LARGE PART BY PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS, SUCH AS WHO IS AVAILABLE. HE NOTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS SPENT LESS THAN ONE-THIRD OF HIS TIME IN WASHINGTON THIS YEAR.

4. COMMENT. MEETING WAS FRINDLY AND RELAXED, AND WE WERE IMPRESSED WITH DETERMINATION OF EDA TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF THIS MISSION-- BECAUSE OF THE JSP'S CURRENT REEXAMINATION OF POLICY AND BECAUSE OF THE STAKE OF HIS MODERATE WING OF THE PARTY IN A SUBSTANTIVELY AND COSMETICALLY USEFUL RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON. IN SEPARATE CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETINGS WITH MISSION MEMBERS, EMBOFFS HAVE ALSO BEEN IMPRESSED WITH SERIOUSNESS MEMBERS ATTACH TO MISSION. BOTH EDA AND DEPUTY LEADER AND "SPOKESMAN" TETSU UEDA HAVE INDICATED KEEN AWARENESS OF DAMAGE THAT COULD BE WROUGHT BY IMPRUDENT STATEMENTS TO PRESS. PRIMIN MIKI, FONMIN MIYAZAWA AND FONOFF OFFICIALS HAVE MET EDA AND MEMBERS OF MISSION AND, PRESUMABLY, ARE COUNSELING RESTRAINT. THE OLD PROBLEM OF SOCIALIST POLEMICS NO DOUBT REMAINS, HOWEVER. HODGSON

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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